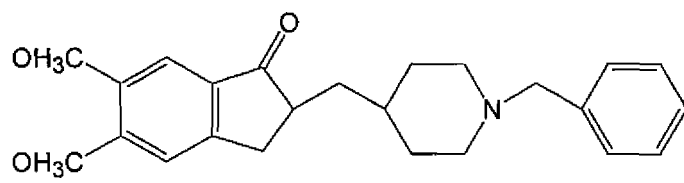


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings of claims in the application:

- 1-12. (Canceled)
13. (Currently amended): A method of protecting neurons of the central nervous system, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of ~~the protective agent according to claim 1~~

1-benzyl-4-[(5,6-dimethoxy-1-indanone)-2-yl]methylpiperidine represented by the following chemical formula or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof:



wherein the neurons are protected from damage induced by cerebral ischemia, excitotoxicity, A β toxicity, or A β aggregation.

- 14-17. (Canceled)
18. (Currently amended): The method according to claim [[14]] 13, wherein the neurons are protected from damage ~~the disorder in neurons of the central nervous system is induced by~~ A β toxicity associated with Alzheimer's disease or Down's syndrome.

19-27. (Canceled)